

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 23, line 14 with the following amended paragraph:

--Finally, the image formation unit 17 synthesizes the image data and pattern image and performs processing necessary for forming an image (S306) (S305). The image formation unit 17 plots the pattern image by using toner or ink that is invisible to human eyes but readable to machines (S306). Materials to constitute such toner or ink include, e.g. an infrared absorbent.--